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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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BOB STUMP – Chairman
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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER
COMPANY, AN ARIZONA CORPORA-
TION, FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE
CURRENT FAIR VALUE OF ITS UTILITY
PLANT AND PROPERTY AND FOR
INCREASES IN ITS RATES AND
CHARGES BASED THEREON FOR
UTILITY SERVICE BY ITS ANTHEM
WATER DISTRICT AND ITS SUN CITY
WATER DISTRICT.

DOCKET NO. W-01303A-09-0343

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

OCT 06 2014

DOCKETED BY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER
COMPANY, AN ARIZONA
CORPORATION, FOR A DETERMINA-
TION OF THE CURRENT FAIR VALUE OF
ITS UTILITY PLANT AND PROPERTY
AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS RATES AND
CHARGES BASED THEREON FOR
UTILITY SERVICE BY ITS
ANTHEM/AGUA FRIA WASTEWATER
DISTRICT, ITS SUN CITY WASTEWATER
DISTRICT AND ITS SUN CITY WEST
WASTEWATER DISTRICT.

DOCKET NO. SW-01303A-09-0343

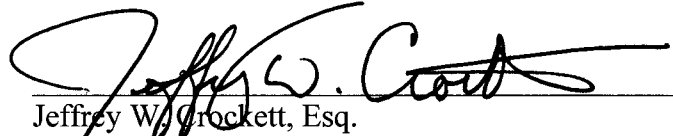
NOTICE OF FILING TESTIMONY OF
GEORGE TURNER ON BEHALF OF
RUSSELL RANCH HOMEOWNERS'
ASSOCIATION, INC.

In accordance with the Procedural Order issued August 18, 2014 (as amended
August 19, 2014), notice is hereby given that intervenor Russell Ranch Homeowners'
Association, Inc., has filed this day the attached Direct Testimony of George Turner.

. . . .
. . . .
. . . .
. . . .

1 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 6th day of October, 2014.

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8 Association, Inc.

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10 foregoing filed this 6th day of October, 2014, with:

11 Docket Control
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14 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

15 COPY of the foregoing hand-delivered
16 this 6th day of October, 2014, to:

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1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

2 COMMISSIONERS

3 BOB STUMP – Chairman
4 GARY PIERCE
5 BRENDA BURNS
6 BOB BURNS
7 SUSAN BITTER SMITH

8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
9 OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER
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11 CORPORATION, FOR A
12 DETERMINATION OF THE CURRENT
13 FAIR VALUE OF ITS UTILITY PLANT
14 AND PROPERTY AND FOR INCREASES
15 IN ITS RATES AND CHARGES BASED
16 THEREON FOR UTILITY SERVICE BY ITS
17 ANTHEM WATER DISTRICT AND ITS
18 SUN CITY WATER DISTRICT.

DOCKET NO. W-01303A-09-0343

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24 DISTRICT, ITS SUN CITY WASTEWATER
25 DISTRICT AND ITS SUN CITY WEST
26 WASTEWATER DISTRICT.

DOCKET NO. SW-01303A-09-0343

27 **DIRECT TESTIMONY OF GEORGE TURNER**
28 **ON BEHALF OF**
RUSSELL RANCH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
OCTOBER 6, 2014

RUSSELL RANCH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

Direct Testimony of George Turner

October 6, 2014

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RUSSELL RANCH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

Direct Testimony of George Turner

October 6, 2014

I. INTRODUCTION.

Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

A. My name is George Turner. My address is 18049 W. Georgia Court, Litchfield Park, Arizona 85340.

Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?

A. I am employed by Arizona Public Service Company. I am a Quality Assurance Engineer providing oversight of Nuclear Operations at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.

Q. DO YOU OWN A HOME WITHIN THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT KNOWN AS RUSSELL RANCH?

A. Yes.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO RUSSELL RANCH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.?

A. I am currently a member of the board of directors of Russell Ranch Homeowners' Association, Inc. ("Russell Ranch HOA" or the "HOA"). I am also a past president of the HOA.

Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. I am testifying on behalf of the Russell Ranch HOA.

Q. ARE YOU AUTHORIZED TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF THE RUSSELL RANCH HOA?

A. Yes. I was authorized to testify on behalf of the Russell Ranch HOA by a unanimous vote of the HOA Board of Directors on October 1, 2014.

1 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED IN ANY PROCEEDING AT THE**
2 **ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION?**

3 A. Yes. I previously provided oral testimony in this proceeding on behalf of the
4 Russell Ranch HOA.

5 **II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY.**

6 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

7 A. The purpose of my testimony is to state on the record the Russell Ranch HOA's
8 strong support of the proposal by EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. ("EPCOR" or the
9 "Company") to fully consolidate its five wastewater districts for rate-making
10 purposes as described in the pre-filed Direct Testimony of Shawn Bradford dated
11 September 8, 2014, and the pre-filed Direct Testimony of Sheryl L. Hubbard
12 dated September 8, 2014. Alternatively, if the Arizona Corporation Commission
13 ("Commission") elects not to move forward with full consolidation of the five
14 wastewater districts, then the Russell Ranch HOA requests that the Commission
15 fully deconsolidate the Agua Fria Wastewater District.

16 **III. DESCRIPTION OF RUSSELL RANCH.**

17 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RUSSELL RANCH DEVELOPMENT.**

18 A. Russell Ranch is a phased residential development in Litchfield Park, Arizona.
19 The development is bounded on the south by Camelback Road, on the east by
20 Citrus Road, on the north by Bethany Home Road, and on the west by the 183rd
21 Avenue alignment. Russell Ranch was planned for five phases with a total of 426
22 homes, but only the first three phases have been developed to date. At this time,
23 there are 213 homes constructed on the 321 lots in the first three phases of Russell
24 Ranch.

25 **Q. IN WHICH EPCOR WASTEWATER DISTRICT IS RUSSELL RANCH**
26 **LOCATED?**

27 A. Russell Ranch is located in the Agua Fria Wastewater District.
28

1 **Q. ARE YOU A CUSTOMER OF EPCOR?**

2 A. Yes. I receive water and wastewater service from EPCOR.

3 **Q. WHAT OTHER DEVELOPMENTS ARE LOCATED IN THE AGUA FRIA**
4 **WASTEWATER DISTRICT?**

5 A. EPCOR's Agua Fria Wastewater District includes the residential communities of
6 Corte Bella, Cross River, Rancho Silverado, Rio Sierra, Dos Rios, Rancho
7 Cabrillo, Coldwater Ranch, Russell Ranch and Verrado.

8 **Q. WHERE IS WASTEWATER FROM RUSSELL RANCH TREATED?**

9 A. Wastewater from Russell Ranch is treated at the Russell Ranch Water
10 Reclamation Facility ("Russell Ranch WRF") located within the southern portion
11 of the Russell Ranch development. Effluent from the Russell Ranch WRF is
12 recharged to the aquifer via two recharge basins located adjacent to the treatment
13 plant. According to testimony provided in this proceeding by Daniel O'Connor,
14 the Russell Ranch WRF was sized to treat the wastewater flows from
15 approximately 492 homes.

16 **Q. WHO FUNDED CONSTRUCTION OF THE RUSSELL RANCH WRF?**

17 A. The cost of constructing the Russell Ranch WRF was initially funded by Russell
18 Ranch LLC, the developer of Russell Ranch. However, the residents of Russell
19 Ranch have effectively funded the construction of the plant through the
20 combination of: (i) the purchase price that each resident paid for their lot; and
21 (ii) a Sewer Development Fee of \$2,750 per lot that is paid by the lot owner at the
22 time that the residential construction permit is obtained.¹ The completed Russell
23 Ranch WRF was turned over to EPCOR's predecessor-in-interest, Citizens
24 Utilities, in April 2002.

25

26

27

28

¹ The Sewer Development Fee is assessed pursuant to Section 5.8 of the Russell Ranch Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions. Of the \$2,750 fee, EPCOR receives \$750 to pay for future regionalization of wastewater infrastructure.

1 **Q. DOES THE RUSSELL RANCH WRF RECEIVE WASTEWATER FROM**
2 **ANY SERVICE CONNECTIONS OTHER THAN THE RESIDENTS OF**
3 **RUSSELL RANCH?**

4 A. No. The Russell Ranch WRF exclusively serves the residents of Russell Ranch.
5 It is a stand-alone plant which is not interconnected with any other sewer
6 infrastructure of EPCOR.

7 **Q. IS WASTEWATER FROM RUSSELL RANCH RECEIVED BY ANY**
8 **OTHER WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY OWNED BY**
9 **EPCOR?**

10 A. No. All wastewater from Russell Ranch is treated at the Russell Ranch WRF.

11 **IV. RUSSELL RANCH HOA'S SUPPORT FOR FULL CONSOLIDATION.**

12 **Q. DOES THE RUSSELL RANCH HOA SUPPORT FULL CONSOLIDATION**
13 **OF THE FIVE EPCOR WASTEWATER DISTRICTS?**

14 A. Yes. The Russell Ranch HOA has consistently supported a fully consolidated
15 Agua Fria Wastewater District inclusive of the residents of Anthem, and the HOA
16 strongly opposed the deconsolidation of the Anthem customers from the district.
17 Having studied the EPCOR proposal submitted in pre-filed testimony on
18 September 8, 2014, the HOA is in strong support of the full consolidation of the
19 five EPCOR wastewater districts.

20 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED THE PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF EPCOR**
21 **WITNESSES SHAWN BRADFORD AND SHERYL L. HUBBARD DATED**
22 **SEPTEMBER 8, 2014?**

23 A. Yes. EPCOR is recommending that the Commission consolidate the Company's
24 Sun City Wastewater District, Sun City West Wastewater District, Agua Fria
25 Wastewater District, Anthem Wastewater District and Mohave Wastewater
26 District. In their testimonies, the EPCOR witnesses provide compelling reasons
27 why the districts should be consolidated and they list a number of primary
28

1 benefits of consolidation. EPCOR's recommendation is well reasoned and the
2 Russell Ranch HOA fully supports the rationale for consolidation set forth in
3 EPCOR's pre-filed testimony and urges the Commission to move forward with
4 full consolidation.

5 **Q. HAS THE DECONSOLIDATION OF ANTHEM CUSTOMERS FROM**
6 **THE AGUA FRIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT CAUSED A FINANCIAL**
7 **HARDSHIP FOR THE RESIDENTS OF RUSSELL RANCH?**

8 A. Absolutely. The residents of Russell Ranch have seen their wastewater bills
9 increase dramatically since deconsolidation. In my case, for example, my
10 monthly charge for wastewater service increased from approximately \$70 in 2012
11 to approximately \$107 currently, and we still have another substantial increase
12 scheduled for January 1, 2015. This additional increase will raise my monthly
13 wastewater charge to more than \$130. When I started wastewater service in 2007,
14 I believe that the monthly charge was as low as \$38. My neighbors in Russell
15 Ranch have experienced increases in their wastewater bills similar to mine.

16 **Q. DOES THE RUSSELL RANCH HOA BELIEVE THAT FULL**
17 **CONSOLIDATION OF THE FIVE WASTEWATER DISTRICTS IS IN**
18 **THE PUBLIC INTEREST?**

19 A. Yes. For all of the reasons contained in the pre-filed testimonies of EPCOR
20 witnesses Bradford and Hubbard, the Russell Ranch HOA believes that full
21 consolidation is in the public interest.

22 **Q. IF THE COMMISSION ELECTS NOT TO APPROVE FULL**
23 **CONSOLIDATION, DOES THE RUSSELL RANCH HOA SUPPORT**
24 **FULL DECONSOLIDATION OF THE AQUA FRIA WASTEWATER**
25 **DISTRICT?**

26 A. Reluctantly, yes. If the Commission elects not to support full consolidation, there
27 is simply no equitable basis for treating the residents of Anthem differently from
28 the residents of Russell Ranch. Like Anthem, Russell Ranch has its own

1 dedicated wastewater treatment plant, a plant which has been paid for by the
2 residents of Russell Ranch. Like Anthem, Russell Ranch is not interconnected
3 with any of the other communities in the Aqua Fria Wastewater District. Thus, if
4 the Commission does not authorize full consolidation, the Russell Ranch HOA
5 requests that the Commission fully deconsolidate the Aqua Fria Wastewater
6 District. However, the HOA strongly prefers the full consolidation of the five
7 wastewater districts.

8 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

9 **A. Yes.**